



# **John Reich Journal**

Volume 15 / Issue 3

January 2004

# JRCS

JOHN REICH COLLECTORS SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 135 Harrison, OH 45030

The purpose of the John Reich Collectors Society (JRCS) is to encourage the study of numismatics, particularly United States gold and silver coins minted before the introduction of the Seated Liberty design, and to provide technical and educational information concerning such coins.

Annual dues .....\$20.00

Life Membership .....\$500.00

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The John Reich Journal is the official publication of the Society and is distributed to all members in good standing. Members are encouraged to submit any articles encouraging the study of numismatics and / or relating to early United States gold and silver coins to the editors. Especially needed are articles containing new information about die marriages, die states of published die marriages, attribution methods, collections, collectors, etc.

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Cover Photos: 1817/13 0101 Capped Bust Half Dollar. One of the most prominent and popular overdates in the Capped Bust Half Dollar series. Speculation is that John Reich made the die and after he left the mint's employ, Robert Scot overdated it for use.

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# John Reich Journal

Official publication of the  
John Reich Collectors Society

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## Editors' Comments

Welcome to the final issue of volume 15 of the **John Reich Journal**. Happy New Year to everyone! We hope that 2004 will bring everyone a wonderful cherry for his collection. This being the last issue of volume 15, means that it is time to pay your dues for the next year. The dues have been increased to \$20 per year to cover the increasing costs of printing and mailing the Journal. Those of you who wish to forget sending in your yearly check can send us one for \$500 to cover a life membership. There is a reminder card included in this issue, please complete the information and return it to the Harrison PO box.

Members who have previously had their journals bound in leather might begin thinking about having the next group bound. The cost to have this done will be \$150 including insured shipping. If you have not had this service done for your journals in the past, it will take three bindings to house them in full leather. The binding includes raised bands on the spine, marbled endpapers and your name inscribed on the cover. This is a wonderful way to display your issues and keep them together for research. Our binder will keep leather on hand to match future bindings. Interested collectors can contact Brad about having their issues bound.

It is also time to vote for the coveted *Jules Reiver Literary Award* for volume 15. You will find a ballot included with this Journal. Please vote for no more than three of your favorite articles from the last year. The lucky author will receive a plaque commemorating his accomplishment. Please take the time to participate in the voting. Just fill out the ballot and return it with your membership dues check to the PO Box. All ballots received before March 10, 2004 will be counted.

The society has many back issues available for sale. They are priced at \$7.50 each postpaid. The available issues are listed on the club Website: <http://www.jrcs.org>. Please send your requests with payment to me at the club PO Box. We also have a limited number of the dime books available at \$75 each postpaid. You can also order one of the half-dime books at the same rate. You may purchase one of each for \$125 including postage.

We would like to again thank Steve Herrman for his generous donations to the club from the sale of his bust half price history study. **Auction and Mail Bid Prices Realized for Bust Half Dollars 1794-1836** is available for \$22 from Steve. He donates \$2.50 from each copy sold to the society. Please contact Steve at 2817 S Jay St. Denver, CO 80227-3801, or at [Herman102@aol.com](mailto:Herman102@aol.com) for more information.

Speaking of Steve, he is the census keeper for the pre-turban half dollars as well as the R4-8 Capped Bust halves. His census for the pre-turbs is included in this issue. We request the collectors of the Capped Bust halves to submit their censuses for inclusion in the next issue of the Journal. A listing of the marriages needed for the study is included with the pre-turb census. Please send the information in the following format: Year-Variety-Grade. Remember to also include information on all

your coins including duplicates and die states for a complete study. Your census should be mailed to the club PO Box in Harrison, OH.

The society will be having organized meetings at both the Central States Numismatic Society meeting in Milwaukee and the ANA meeting in Pittsburgh. The meeting at the Central States Convention will take place on Saturday morning at 9AM at the convention center. We would like to thank Kevin Foley for providing a meeting room at the convention for our organization. More information will be available at the show. We would be pleased to have someone volunteer to give a presentation at either show. The annual meeting at the ANA will be covered in the next issue of the Journal.

The past year has brought many challenges to the officers of the society. We are thankful for the support of the membership. Your contributions of articles for publication in the journal are the backbone of our society. We are in need of more submissions for the next issue, which will be out in the spring. Publication of your article makes you eligible for the *Jules Reiver Literary Award*. Wouldn't one look good on the wall of your office or den? I look forward to your contributions.

By the time you receive this journal the FUN show in Orlando, Florida will be history. This wonderful show kicks off the year for collectors. Many more wonderful shows will complete the year for us. Every one of these shows gives us the opportunity to meet and share experiences with fellow collectors. Take the time to introduce yourself to someone at the next show who shares your interest in the early coinages of the US. You will, most likely, make a new friend and have someone to share your interest. Consider passing along information on joining our society. The opportunity to learn more about our interesting niche of numismatics will be appreciated by another collector of bust coins. We look forward to seeing many of you at these shows throughout 2004.

"Everyone is ignorant only on different subjects." Will Rogers

Remember to contribute something to the society this year to expand the sphere of knowledge in numismatics. You can write an article, ask a question or merely submit your census for inclusion in one of our studies. Participate in your club to make it even better in the New Year.

## **CAPPED BUST HALF DOLLAR COLLECTORS**

IT IS TIME TO SUBMIT YOUR CENSUS FOR THE  
R4-R8 MARRIAGES

PLEASE REFER TO THE LIST INCLUDED WITH  
THE PRE-TURB CENSUS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE  
PLEASE REPORT ALL THE COINS YOU OWN  
INCLUDING DUPLICATES AND DIE STATES



# The Mystery of the "Missing" 1795 Silver Dollar

## W. David Perkins, NLG

The Bolender reference collection of early United States silver dollars was sold at public auction on February 23, 1952. Bolender's catalog was titled "*183rd Auction Sale of Rare Coins, Medals & Tokens, and Paper Money, Featuring the Extensive Private Collection of United States Silver Dollars with 183 Varieties Before 1804, the Collection Formed by M. H. Bolender.*" For those of you not familiar with Bolender's auction sales, this sale was a mail bid sale, as were most if not all his sales. Bolender resided in Freeport, Illinois at this time, thus it is logical that not many would attend his sales "in person."

This sale featured Bolender's personal reference collection of early dollars by die variety, formed over a period of more than 40 years. The majority of the plate coins in Bolender's book *The United States Early Silver Dollars from 1794 to 1803* were included in this sale. None of the sale lots were plated in the catalog, however Bolender encouraged all bidders to acquire a copy of his book if they did not already own one, and noted which coins were pictured in his book (obverse plated, reverse plated or both obverse and reverse plated). Bolender also included detailed pedigree information. For example, Lot 3 in this sale was cataloged as follows:

### 183rd AUCTION SALE

of

#### Rare Coins, Medals & Tokens, and Paper Money

Featuring the Extensive Private Collection of

#### United States Silver Dollars

With 183 Varieties Before 1804

The Collection Formed by M. H. Bolender

AND OTHER FINE CONSIGNMENTS

Including a magnificent collection of quarters, over 250 lots, with three of 1796! C.S.A. and Southern State Currency nearly complete, choice ancient Greek and Roman coins, extensive fine quality collection of silver and copper coins of the World, rare crowns, Colonial coins and paper money, collection of proof Indian head cents, choice large cents, rare medals and tokens, uncirculated rolls, numismatic literature, etc.



To Be Sold by Mail Auction

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1952



By the Cataloguer

M. H. BOLENDER

1126 Benson Blvd.,

FREEPORT, ILLINOIS

3. 1795 silver dollar. B-1. Flowing hair. Dated [sic] spaced 1 795. Reverse: two leaves under each wing of eagle. Edge lettered HUNDRED CENTS ONE DOLLAR OR UNIT on every piece until 1804. Extremely fine, considerable luster, sharp even impressions. Plate (Refers to the Bolender book on silver dollars, where this identical coin was used for both obverse and reverse plates). From the great Stickney coll'n. later in Schwab collection. \$75.

In the introduction to the sale Bolender stated, "This collection includes a total of 183 varieties of dollars dated before 1804, which is the largest, most nearly complete, and finest collection ever assembled by anyone in the world."

As stated above, the collection was almost complete in die varieties, all attributed to the proper "Bolender number." The 1795s were complete by "known" (at this time) die varieties with one exception, the 1795 B-7 marriage. Bolender had the extremely rare 1795

*Bolender's 183rd Sale, the sale of his personal reference collection of silver dollars. Curiously, the "183rd Sale" offered "183" early dollars to the public, including the majority of the plate coins in the Bolender book.*

B-8, 10 and 11 marriages, the very rare B-12 (two different die states) and the B-13, and the only known and discovery specimen of 1795 B-16 (acquired approximately 20 years earlier).

One of the items that had always puzzled me is why Bolender’s collection did not have an example of the 1795 B-7 die marriage. This is not a tough variety to acquire. Bolender called this marriage a R-4, and most call it R-3 today.

At the time of the first printing of the Bolender book in 1950, the 1795 B-7 obverse die was only known as being used in striking 1795 B-7. [*Later, two new 1795 die marriages were discovered using this same B-7 obverse die.*] The same holds true for the reverse [*only known used in striking B-7 in 1950; B-7 obverse was discovered married to a new reverse die at a later date.*] This makes it extremely likely that the B-7 obverse and reverse photographs in the Bolender book are taken from a specimen of the 1795 B-7 die marriage and are not a “composite” photo. The Bolender book has all of the plate photos located in the back of the book. From the photos, the 1795 B-7 dollar appears to grade About Uncirculated or Mint State. Thus *at a minimum* we can assume that Bolender had access to a specimen of the B-7 die marriage (to photograph) prior to his 1952 sale. Most likely Bolender owned the specimen plated in his book at one time, and sold it prior to the public auction of his collection.



*Obverse of Bolender plate coin for 1795 B-7. This coin is believed by the author to have been sold to W. G. “Farish” Baldenhofer prior to Bolender’s February 1952 sale. Baldenhofer in turn sold this specimen to the Ostheimer’s about 1969-70. K. P. gave this photo to the author years ago. Bolender gave Austin 2X-sized photos of all of the 1795 dollars from his sale. [Photo now in the author’s collection, courtesy of K. P. Austin.]*

If Bolender sold his 1795 B-7 dollar prior to this sale, to whom did he sell it to? Let’s move forward in time to the Superior Stamp and Coin Co., Inc. *Gilhousen Sale* of October 1, 2, 3, 4, 1973. This sale offered a 1795 B-7 as lot 1215, cataloged as follows:

1795. Flowing hair, three leaves, Bolender 7. Lowest curl very small; two berries under D. Richly toned prooflike Uncirculated, somewhat soft strike. Light handling marks near lowest curls. Believed to be by a small margin finest of four top examples of the variety. Ex-Bolender, W. G. Baldenhofer, Ostheimer. Pictured (obverse and reverse) on the Bolender plates.

First, note that the pedigree is ex. Bolender and the description note that this coin is the one that is plated in the Bolender book. To verify this, I “plate matched” the photographs from the Bolender plates and lot 1215 in the *Gilhousen Sale* and they match. The photos appear to be taken with different camera and/or printing technology, different lighting, or possibly the coin was lightly cleaned sometime between 1950 and 1973. But the photos are of the same coin.

Approximately two years later, this specimen is offered again in another Superior Galleries’ auction, the 1975 A.N.A. Auction Sale, August 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 1975, Lot 799. It was noted that this coin was previously *Gilhousen Sale*:1215. The description from the October 1973



*Gilhousen Sale* was quoted in the catalog. I have a copy of this 1975 A.N.A. *Sale* catalog annotated during lot viewing by the late Jack Collins. Interestingly, for the 1795 B-7 silver dollar Jack notes “faint traces of old cleaning.” This is the same coin, but again it has a slightly different look to it than in the two other photos.

This raises the question, “did Baldenhofer acquire this coin directly from Bolender?” The pedigree listed in the Superior 1975 A.N.A. *Sale* is ex. Bolender-Baldenhofer-Ostheimer. Given this, it is likely Baldenhofer acquired it directly from Bolender. The unanswered question now becomes “When?” W. G. “Farish” Baldenhofer was a known early dollar specialist and bought other lots from the Bolender collection sale in 1952 [*Author’s research, not published at this time.*] As this specimen of 1795 B-7 was not offered in the Bolender sale and given the pedigree listing, it is *very likely* that Baldenhofer purchased this from Bolender prior to the 1952 sale. As this specimen was plated in Bolender’s book; my belief is that this specimen was the coin in Bolender’s reference collection.

In the Bowers and Merena *Armand Champa* numismatic literature sale I acquired early dollar specialist K. P. Austin’s personal copy of Bolender’s 183rd *Sale* catalog, complete with an invoice detailing Mr. Austin’s purchases in this sale. [*Austin purchased all of the 1795 dollars in this sale.*] Also laid in the catalog were two letters from Bolender, both dated February 23, 1952. One of the two letters confirmed that Bolender had sold his specimen prior to the sale; the mystery of why the 1795 B-7 die marriage was missing in the sale of Bolender’s collection was solved! Quoting from Bolender’s letter to K. P. Austin,

...The B-7 I had sold from my collection but have had a dozen of them, nice ones, and it is not a hard one for you to pick up. Or I will do so for you if you want me to keep watch for one....”

In conclusion, it can be stated for sure that Bolender owned all of the 1795-dollar die marriages that were known at this time, and *to use a double negative*, was not “unable to acquire a specimen of 1795 B-7.” It is likely that this specimen is the one Bolender owned, and that Bolender sold this exact specimen to Farish Baldenhofer prior to his February 23, 1952 sale. Baldenhofer sold it to the Ostheimers [*est. 1959 or 1960, author’s research*]. The Ostheimer’s eventually

sold it to Larry Goldberg of Superior Stamp and Coin around 1969-70. It had at least one other owner between 1970 and 1975, when it was offered for public sale in Superiors’ 1975 A.N.A. *Sale*.

Now the mystery becomes, “Where is this coin today?”



Reverse of Bolender plate coin for 1795 B-7. The best identifying mark (for plate matching) is the line “curving from north to southeast” in the field under the second S in STATES.





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## Discovery of an 1833 Bust Quarter Remarriage

### Steve Tompkins

Encompassing the years of 1831-1838 and having the same basic design throughout, the small diameter bust quarters were both the forerunner of the steam press era and what we would consider the modern quarter coinage we have today. While this small part of the bust series formed from 1796-1838 has been treated like the proverbial stepchild, the large size coins have been the subject of much interest and activity over the preceding century. But, the latest new die marriage discovered was an 1837 and I for one, believe that the small size quarters are due to produce many interesting and provocative things. I hope that the following proves as much.

Die remarriages exist in many other series as well as in the bust quarter series. One of the best examples that comes to mind in the bust quarter series is the 1818 B-7 and B-9 as evidenced by the reverse die remarriage, which was written about by John McCloskey in **John Reich Journal** Volume 14/1. Breen also listed several other possible remarriages, without showing any proof, in his update of the Browning book. A die remarriage is defined as a set of obverse and reverse dies used to produce a die marriage; then one or the other of the dies is paired with another die to produce a different die marriage; subsequently the die used in the first marriage is again paired with its original mate and all coins struck from this last pairing are considered to be remarriage coins.

The first three photos show a B-1 EDS with no die rust anywhere on the obverse.



*1833 B-1 EDS NO RUST PITS*

1833 consists of two known bust quarter die marriages. B-1 and B-2 share a common obverse die. The B-1 obverse is known both with no rust defects and with heavy die rust. The B-2 obverse is only known with heavy die rust. While looking through several of my coins, and in comparing them with the pictures in the Browning book, I noticed that the picture for the B-2 obverse showed a very late die state with heavy rust. The B-2 in my collection had rust, but nothing as severe as in the Browning plate. I was intrigued and decided to see if I could find a later die state of the B-2 to add to my collection.

## DISCOVERY OF AN 1833 BUST QUARTER REMARRIAGE

On the three photos of the B-2, there are several rust pits between the back of the liberty cap and star 8; rust beginning around the clasp and the date; and rust in the field @ star 5 and above star 7.



1833 B-2

After several years of searching, I was at a local show and thought I had found the coin I was looking for. However, to my surprise, when I turned it over it was a B-1! I compared it with the picture in Browning and decided it was too close to tell and I needed to compare it to other coins I had at home. I purchased the coin and couldn't wait to put all my coins together and see what was revealed.

And finally the last three photos of the B-1 remarriage coin showing increased rust at all the areas listed in 1833 B-2, clearly at an advanced state.



1833 B-1 LDS

When I lined them up and studied the rust patterns what I found was that a remarriage had occurred. Starting with the early die state B-1 with no rust, to the B-2 late die state with rust in many places, and finally to B-1 again with heavier rust at all the places found in the B-2. The Browning plate coin for B-2 is very close to the die state of my B-1 and in fact, due to the high grade of the Browning coin, it looks like a later die state. The rust found on the highest levels of the portrait were the first to wear away and on my EF+ coin and they are hard to see. Until a higher grade B-1 LDS is found it is hard to say at what point the switching of dies occurred.

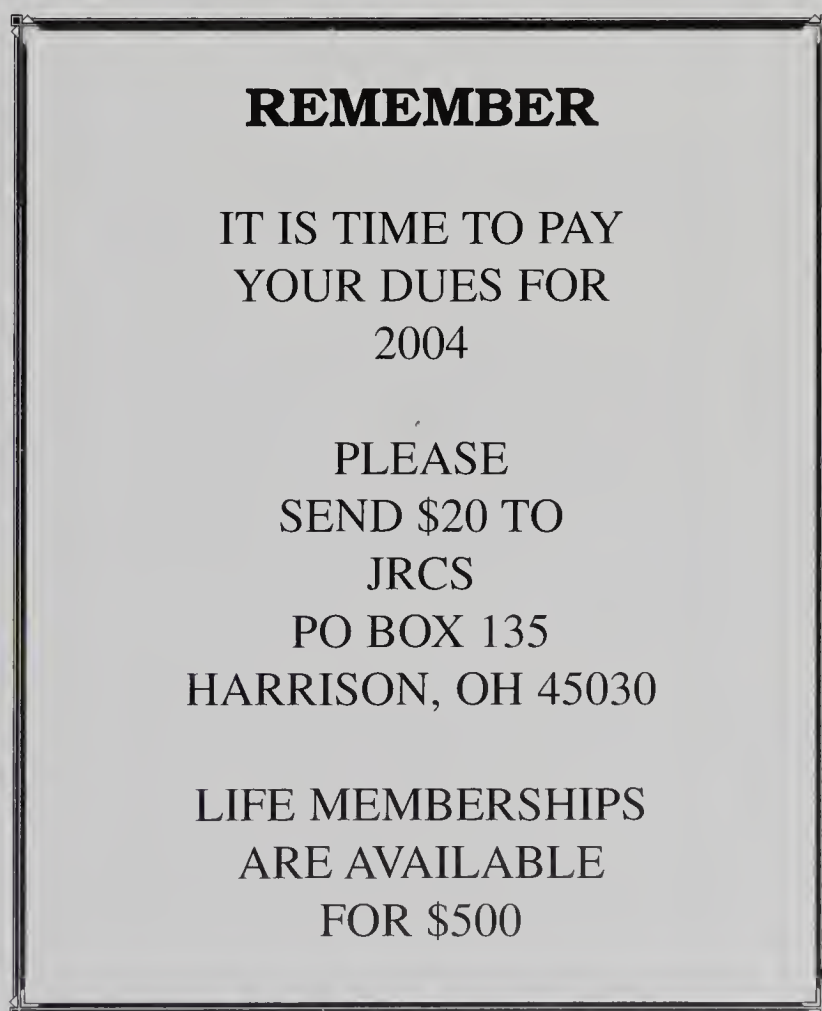


During the Baltimore ANA in 2003 there was a program presented by Craig Sholley pertaining to “rust pits” such as those that are mentioned in this article. While the term “rust pits” has been used unilaterally to describe these occurrences of the deterioration of the dies for well over 100 years, Craig has come up with a different theory. According to his presentation the proper term should be “spawling” or a chipping out of the die due to the striking process. While what really occurred is still open to debate, it is not the focus of this article and the terms used are merely for the general understanding of the progression and deterioration of the dies in showing the remarriage that occurred.

In conclusion, as you can see, there are still many things to learn from this series. I would be interested to hear about any other die states or die remarriages that other collectors may have found.

Steve Tompkins  
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© All photos are courtesy of Rory Rea.



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## Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census

**Stephen J. Herrman**

Five years have passed since the last Pre-Turban Bust half dollar census report appeared in the Journal. That census was prepared by our late co-founder, Russell J. Logan. After his sudden passing in March 2002, it took a period of time for us to regroup—Russ did so much for our organization. When asked, I gladly volunteered to prepare the Pre-Turban Bust Half Dollar Census and the Capped Bust Half Dollar Census reports for future Journals. Presented here is my first effort.

Other members have taken on the responsibility for the half dime, dime, quarter, and dollar census reports. Our goal is to provide a new census report with every issue. Of course, the completeness of each census report depends on you, the members of the **John Reich Collectors Society**. Your participation is crucial to our success.

Of the 106 Pre-Turban half dollar die varieties listed in the 1990 revision of the Overton book, one variety probably does not exist, the 1795 O118 10/N. To my knowledge, nobody has seen an example or heard rumor of one existing. However, it is interesting to note that just three years ago, a die variety that had not been seen by at least two generations of early half dollar specialists appeared. A new specimen (different die state from the piece plated by Beistle) of the 1795 O132 19/A, graded VG 10 by NGC, sold as lot 1728 in the Goldberg (Benson, Part I) sale of February 2001, realizing \$39,100.

Another variety that I have heard fellow members question is the 1794 O109. My records indicate that this variety was discovered in 1976, and a VG 10 specimen is plated in Overton. However, the whereabouts of this piece is currently unknown. Can anyone out there tell us the story of the discovery and the present location of this coin?

Rarity rating estimates for the this Pre-Turban half dollar census report are primarily based on those listed in the 1990 revision of Overton. I have taken the liberty to revise the ratings of a handful of varieties for which the populations are well known. These revisions are indicated with a star following the revised estimated rarity rating. An update to the 1990 ratings is long overdue. The Bust Half Nut Club recently began a study of the rarity ratings estimates for the Pre-Turban half dollars.

A total of 32 collections and 1062 coins were submitted for this census report. Thank you to everyone who participated.



PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS

YEAR	VAR	R	007	012	918	422	323	999	051	692	100	957	787	515	1018	978	049	TOT	AVG	MAX
1794	101	4	20	30	55	12								15				6	23	55
	102	6	10	12	15	6												4	11	15
	103	5	12	12	8	12				8	10							6	10	12
	104	5	15		20	8				8								4	13	20
	105	5	30	10	35	25	8										4	6	19	35
	106	5*	15	30	25	30				10								5	22	30
	107	5	12	10	12													3	11	12
	108	7	10		10													2	10	10
	109	8																		
	110	7																		
	111	8*																		
1795	101	7*	45	25	20													3	30	45
	102	5	30	20	45	12					10							7	19	45
	103	5	20	30	40	40								3				5	27	40
	104	4	30	10		15												3	18	30
	105	4	30	35	45	15	15							20			12	10	20	45
	106	6	40	25	15	12												4	23	40
	107	5	25	25	8	20	10	12		15					4			9	15	25
	108	4	30	45	40													4	30	45
	109	4	20	30	20	12	15										10	6	18	30
	110	4	40	25	40	15	10	20				15					10	9	20	40
	111	4	50	15	15	8	2	10						15				7	16	50
	112	4	20	15	25	8	8	20						12			8	10	16	35
	113	3	25	15	45	8	8			12	15	15			4	6		12	15	45
	114	6	8	25	12	30				5					8			6	15	30
	115	5	30	15	53		8	8										5	23	53
	116	5	30	40	53		10	15							2			6	25	53
	117	4	20	20	35	30				20								7	24	35
	118	-																		
	119	4	30	25	40			25				20						5	28	40
	120	6*	15	40	30	30												4	29	40
	121	4	45	25		12	8			25				4				6	20	45
	122	5	30	20	40			20		15							4	6	22	40
	123	7*	20	30		20												3	23	30
	124	5	10	10	8	12				20					6			6	11	20
	125	5	35	40	40			25										6	26	40

PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS

YEAR	VAR	R	007	012	918	422	323	999	051	692	100	957	787	515	1018	978	049	TOT	AVG	MAX
1795	126	4	30	30	25	30	8											6	23	30
	127	6*	12	15	10	20	12											5	14	20
	128	5	20	12	15	12	8	12		10								7	13	20
	129	4	55	25	20	12				15				12				7	26	55
	130	5	20	30	58							15						5	27	58
	131	4	30	30	45					15	20				2			7	22	45
	132	8*																		
1796	101	5		60	40													2	50	60
	102	6	20	30	40													3	30	40
1797	101	5		30	40									15				3	28	40
	102	5	20	30														3	21	30
1801	101	3	25	45	50		30	25	12	20	10	25	20	12	8	12		18	22	50
	102	4	45	50	45	30	20	30	12		15	25		35			12	12	30	50
1802	101	3	45	45	53		10	30	8		40	20	20	30			35	18	29	53
1803	101	3	40	45	50		15	30	20		40	30	20	20	15	20	12	19	27	50
	102	3	40	40	50	50	15	12	30	20	15	30	12		25	20	12	17	24	50
	103	3	50	45	53	40	12	45	10	30	55	45	30		10	35	15	23	29	55
	104	3	40	45	55	40	10	40	12	30	53	30	35	35	15	12	20	24	30	55
1805	101	3	50	45	45	20	10	40	10			30	35				15	13	29	50
	102	3	45	45	55		15	35	8	20		30		35			8	13	31	55
	103	5	20	40	35	30	10							35		20		8	28	40
	104	4	45	40	58	40	12	25	25				6	12				12	29	58
	105	4	25	30	40	40	20		18	18			18					8	22	40
	106	3	50	20	40	30	30	40	12		12	25				30	12	12	26	50
	107	4	40	45		45	8	50	12	20	12		12					10	26	50
	108	4	40	50	53	40	12	20	30	15	12		35		7			12	28	53
	109	3	30	30	40	40	35	45	12	20	12		20	35	20		10	14	27	45
	110	4	40	40	25	25	20	40		35	15	30						9	30	40
	111	3	40	60	53	45	12	25	35		12	25	20	35	20	15	15	20	29	60
	112	2	45	50	50	40	35	50	8		15	35			30	15		13	34	50
	113	4	45	50	50	40	35	35	20	25			20		25			11	34	50
	114	8																		
1806	101	3	45	50	55	30	15		10	15		40	35	30				11	33	55
	102	2	55	50	58	40	15	55	20	25		35		20			15	12	35	58
	103	2	58	45	53	25	15	50	20		12	30	20	18	10	10		25	25	58
	104	4	55	45	55	58	20	30	25	25	10		20	12	15	30	20	18	27	58



PRE-TURBAN BUST HALF DOLLAR CENSUS

YEAR	VAR	R	007	012	918	422	323	999	051	692	100	957	787	515	1018	978	049	TOT	AVG	MAX
1806	105	2	53	50	55	30	20	25	12	15	15	40	20		10		20	23	26	55
	106	4	55	45	55		25	30	12		20	40	30		12	12	20	13	29	55
	107	5	45	40	30	40	40	40	30	20	30	30		20		35	8	17	28	45
	108	7	12	15														2	14	15
	109	1	50	55	63	45	12	40	25	35	53	40	45	35	20	12	12	29	31	63
	110	6	45	12	45	10				12								5	25	45
	111	3	63	40	55	50	8	30	25			30		35	8	40	15	15	31	63
	112	4	40	40	50	50	15	20	12	25		15	20	35	6		12	17	28	50
	113	5	30	25	35	30	30	12	10	45						15		9	26	45
	114	4	45	55	50	40	30	50	6	20	20		35	20		40		13	33	55
	115	1	45	45	58	30	12	40	30	25	20	30		20		12	15	26	24	58
	116	3	45	60	50	8	15	35	20		12		20		12			14	28	60
	117	4	58	45	15	30	8	25	6	20		40			10	30		11	26	58
	118	3	60	45	58	30	12	40	12		20		45	20		8	20	15	28	60
	119	3	45	50	58	30	8	40	25		15	35						15	27	58
	120	3	45	65	58	20	15	45	30		12	35	30	20	15	20		19	28	65
	121	4	40	45	63	25	8	35	20		12	20	30		25	35		14	30	63
	122	7	20	22		8	20			20								5	18	22
	123	4	50	50	62	40	20	30	10	35						15		11	31	62
	124	6	45	40	25	25	12							15				7	27	45
	125	5	35	50	58	40	12	25	20	20		20	15			15	12	12	27	58
	126	7	50	15	20	12												4	24	50
	127	7	20	20	3	15												4	15	20
	128	8*	20															1	20	20
1807	101	5	50	40	53	40	8	45	10		20		20			15		12	27	53
	102	2	45	55	50		20	30	15		10	30		15		35		16	26	55
	103	3	55	45	55	30	8	40	25	15	15				4			14	26	55
	104	5*	40	30	53		20	45	12	15	12	20				35		11	27	53
	105	2	58	40	55	50	20	40	25	20	15	25	40		10	15	12	33	26	58
	106	3	45	40	61	40	8	55	12	35	30	35	12					20	28	61
	107	4*	45	50	55	20	12	15	10	30	15				15	12		12	27	55
	108	3	50	45	58	45	15	50	8		45	12	30		20	12		20	26	58
	109	3	40	50	45	40	4	25	12	12	10	30	40		10		15	15	23	50
	110	2	55	50	63	40	15	30	12	40	45	30	12	30	25	30	8	23	30	63
TOTAL VARS			98	97	92	76	67	58	49	46	41	39	33	33	33	32	31			
AVG GRADE			36	35	41	28	15	32	17	21	21	28	25	22	13	21	13			

## CAPPED BUST HALF DOLLAR COLLECTORS

It is time to send in your updates for the Capped Bust Half Dollar Census for R4-R8 varieties, 1807-1836. We will only be publishing the census for the varieties listed as R4 and better in this update. Please refer to the listing below.

Duplicates will be counted and reported as part of the totals. The finest collections shall be identified by JRCS numbers only. Your personal census will be kept strictly confidential, and shall not be used for any other purpose.

Please e-mail your complete census (including duplicates) of R4-R8 varieties, and/or any questions, to Steve Herrman at: [Herrman102@aol.com](mailto:Herrman102@aol.com)

Send any written correspondence to the editor at: Capped Bust Half Dollar Census, P.O. Box 135, Harrison, OH 45030

### R4 to R8 Capped Bust Half Dollar Varieties

<u>Year</u>	<u>Var</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Var</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Var</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Var</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Var</u>	<u>R</u>
1807	111	4+	1817	105	4	1825	117	4	1827	136	4	1830	114	5+
1808	110	4+	1817	108	4	1825	118	8	1827	137	6	1831	113	4
1809	101	5	1818	110	4	1826	103	5	1827	138	4	1831	115	4
1809	104	5	1818	115	4+	1826	114	4+	1827	139	4	1831	117	4
1809	108	4	1819	103	4	1826	115	5-	1827	140	4+	1831	120	6
1809	110	4	1819	106	4	1826	119	4-	1827	144	5+	1832	109	4
1809	112	5	1820	104	4	1827	103	4	1827	145	5	1832	114	4
1809	113	5+	1820	107	5	1827	108	4	1827	147	4	1832	117	4+
1809	114	5	1822	102	4+	1827	109	4-	1827	148	7	1832	123	7
1811	102	4	1822	103	5	1827	110	4-	1827	149	8	1833	111	4
1811	103	4	1822	112	4	1827	111	4	1828	105	5	1833	115	5+
1811	107	4	1823	102	4	1827	113	4-	1828	106	4+	1833	116	7
1811	112	4	1823	109	5+	1827	116	4+	1828	111	4	1834	110	4
1811	113	5	1823	113	7	1827	122	5	1828	123	5+	1834	118	4
1812	101	5	1824	102	5+	1827	123	5-	1829	106	4+	1834	122	7
1813	102	4	1824	112	4	1827	124	5+	1829	109	4	1835	111	8
1813	104	4	1824	114	5-	1827	127	5+	1829	118	4	1836	107	4
1814	106	4+	1825	103	4	1827	129	4-	1829	120	8	1836	121	5+
1817	102	7	1825	104	4	1827	133	4	1830	105	4			
1817	104	6	1825	109	5	1827	134	4	1830	112	4+			





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## **Early U.S. Minting Methods**

### **Part III: The Presses and Striking**

**Craig Sholley**

This article will address the Mint's general coining procedures from planchet preparation through the operation of the presses. Historical records, including the "Mint records" in the National Archives, provide rather detailed descriptions of the Mint's coining operations, and the view that emerges from these records is quite a bit different from that previously published.

#### **Refining and Casting Operations**

On November 2, 1795, Mint Director Elias Boudinot wrote the first full set of "Mint Rules". These rules define the account books required and the responsibilities of the various departments and workers of the Mint. Not surprisingly, the rules required very strict control and accounting of all gold, silver and copper coming into the Mint.

All coining metal was received by the Treasurer of the Mint who recorded the gross weight and issued a receipt to depositors of gold and silver bullion. Copper was purchased by the Mint so no receipt was issued. Prior to 1797, when the Mint started purchasing finished copper planchets, the copper was sent directly to the Melter and Refiner for casting into ingot.

After being received and recorded by the Treasurer, bullion deposits were taken to the assaying room. Contrary to some authors, Mint regulations required an assay of all bullion deposits, regardless of source. For ingots, the assayer cut a small amount of metal from each ingot and then weighed and melted the test cuttings into a mass. Foreign coin or scrap silver (jewelry, plate, etc.) was melted into one or more ingots and assay samples taken in the same manner.

Assaying was carried out using a rather tedious procedure of weighing, melting and dissolving the sample in boiling acid to determine both the fineness and the number of fine ounces of silver and/or gold in the deposit (see Taxay pp. 84 – 87 and 153 – 156). The Assayer reported the results to the Treasurer who, in turn, recorded the figures for each deposit. A refining charge of two cents per ounce for silver and four cents per ounce of gold was deducted for deposits that were less than standard (i.e., .8924 for silver and .9167 for gold).

One of the many myths and misconceptions that have sprung up concerning the Mint is that the Mint was required to return, in coin, exactly that metal deposited. Not only was this never a requirement, but any such constraint would have obviously been a logistical nightmare. In fact, the Mint records show that once assayed, bullion deposits were combined for refining and melting with the total value and denomination owed to each depositor kept by account.

Also, while the Mint regulations state that each bullion deposit was to be coined in the order it was received, there were exceptions to this rule. The Mint's account books occasionally show a later depositor receiving coin before an earlier depositor. This typically happened when the Mint was coining a large deposit from the Bank of the United States and private individuals deposited smaller amounts. Although no records remain, the Mint likely asked permission for these occasional "swaps".

Once refined, the bullion or copper was melted and cast into ingots. Bullion was, of course, alloyed with copper - often scrap from cent coining. Ingots were typically a half-inch thick, from one to 2 and a half inches wide and 12 inches long. One end of the ingot was tapered to allow it to be fed into the rollers.

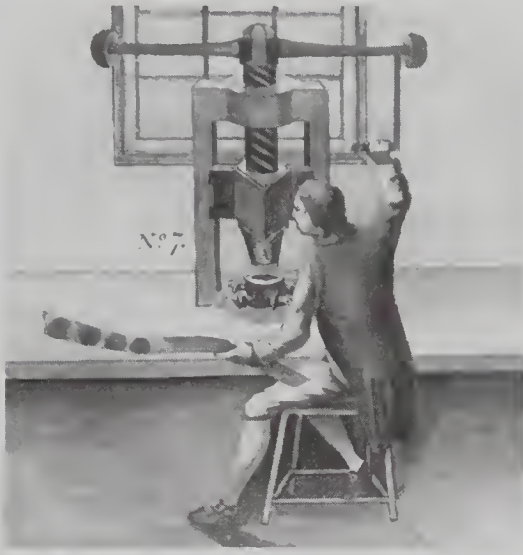
### **Rolling and Planchet Preparation**

After cleaning, the ingots were rolled and drawn into strips of the proper thickness for planchets. This required several passes through a set of horse-powered rollers. While some researchers have theorized otherwise, the rollers were horse-powered solely because the Mint, being under pressure by a stingy and shortsighted Congress, was afraid to spend the money for a better system (see Taxay pg. 82, letter from Voigt to Boudinot). This would change in 1817 with the introduction of a steam engine and new rolling mills, but for its first 24 years the Mint was stuck with this antiquated method.

The original rollers were purchased on Nov. 10, 1792 from John Bringhurst. In 1794, these were supplemented by a set purchased from John Harper. Apparently neither set of rollers was well made as coinage had to be suspended at least twice, once in 1793 and again in 1796, while they were repaired. The problems appear to have been finally resolved in 1796 by the purchase of a set of rollers imported from England, as there is no further mention of problems after their arrival.

After the strip was rolled to the proper thickness, it was then drawn on a drawbench to even out irregularities. After annealing, the strip was sent to the planchet cutting press.

Prior to 1817, planchets were cut on a manually-operated screw press. The strip was held under the press while the press arm was swung, forcing the punch through the strip. The finished planchet then passed through a hole in the lower die and the base of the press, falling into a bucket or basket below. One of the most common accidents in this process was that of failing to advance the strip properly and another planchet was cut overlapping the hole left by the previous cut causing a so-called "clip" defect.



*Planchet press from Samuel Thompson's  
"An Essay on Coining"*

The cut planchets were then annealed to soften them for striking, cleaned in an acid bath, dried, and sent to the rimming machine. Collectors often call the rimming machine a "Castaing machine" after the one designed around 1680 by a French engineer for the Paris mint and illustrated in Diderot's "encyclopedia". The Mint records, however, refer to them simply as rimming machines.

The rimming machine consisted of two parallel bars, each containing half of the inscription for the edge device. One of the bars was fixed and the other was moved by a crank. A planchet was fed between the two bars, and the crank turned rolling the planchet between the bars, thereby imparting the design. "Blundered edges" on coins come

not from the planchet or machine "slipping", but from the planchet either being fed improperly or the sliding die not being in the right position when the planchet was fed.

In the Mint's early days, the rimming operation served two purposes. The first was to "rim" or raise up the edge of the planchet so that the coin's border details (dentils) would strike up. The second was to apply the edge lettering used as a "coin clipping" and counterfeiting countermeasure.

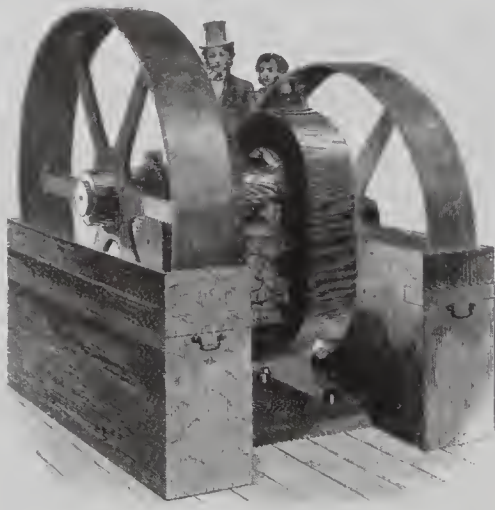
In 1795, the edge-lettering on cents and half cents was deemed no longer necessary and those denominations were upset with plain edge thereafter. And, in 1829, a new "close" collar was introduced for the striking of gold, quarters, dimes and half dimes. The close collar imparted reeded edge markings during the strike, so thereafter those denominations were likewise upset with only a plain edge.

### Steam Power Comes to the Mint

Rolling and planchet cutting operations were dramatically improved by a rather fortuitous accident in 1816. According to Mint records in the National Archives, on January 11, 1816 at 2:00 a.m., a fire broke out in the building housing the rolling machine and planchet cutting presses. The fire then spread to the building that housed the furnaces for smelting bullion.

While the fire effectively destroyed the Mint's capability to refine and strike silver and gold coinage, it also provided the Director with the opportunity to at least partially mechanize the Mint. Copper coinage was unaffected as the coining room with its screw presses was not involved in the fire. Also, the Mint did not produce its own copper planchets, but rather ordered them from British firms.





New rolling mill

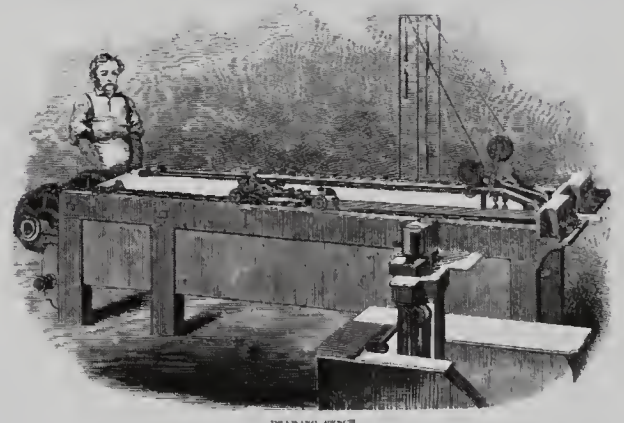
On January 15th, Mint Director Robert Patterson wrote to President Madison seeking approval to repair the Mint, stating “*that this can be done, and on a much improved plan, without any special appropriation for that purpose, merely from the balances of former appropriations not yet carried to the surplus fund.*” The promise to spend only surplus funds was apparently a powerful “selling point” and Patterson quickly received approval on the 19th to repair the Mint.

Three steam-powered rolling machines with additional sets of rollers and gear assemblies were ordered to drawings supplied by the Mint, from the English firm of Harrold and

Belles on May 27, 1816 and received in late November. The records likewise show that a steam engine was ordered from Oliver Evans.

A draw bench and a planchet cutting press were also installed during this time. These were evidently made by Mint personnel as there is no record of their being ordered from an outside source.

It appears that the Mint copied Boulton’s design for draw bench as detailed drawings of Bouton’s equipment had appeared just two years earlier in the 1815 edition of the *American Edition of the New Edinburg Encyclopedia* and illustrations of the Mint’s bench from later publications such as the July 17, 1852 issue of *Gleason’s Pictorial Drawing Room Companion* shows a rather “remarkable similarity”!



Drawbench press

The planchet cutting press was also apparently of Mint design. There is only one passing mention of it in the historical record – Waldo Abbott’s December 1861 article *Making Money* – where it is described as the first one installed about forty years prior.

All of the equipment was installed and operating some time prior to May 1817 as the Director reported in the “Mint Report” for 1817 that silver coinage had recommenced at the beginning of May.



planchet press

### Coining by Screw Press

The Mint used manually operated screw presses for its coining operations from its inception in 1792 until mid-1836, when they were gradually replaced by the steam-powered presses. While no detailed drawings or descriptions remain, a fairly good idea of their origin, design, and operation can be constructed from the mint records and other contemporary sources.

In discussing the origin of the Mint's screw presses, it is first necessary to dispel one of the most enduring myths of U.S. numismatics – that of the “Droz presses”.

In his “*History of The First United States Mint*”, Frank Stewart was the first to propose that the Mint's original presses were supplied by the noted Swiss die-sinker and engraver Jean-Pierre Droz, whom the U.S. had unsuccessfully tried to hire as the first director of the Mint. Stewart based this conjecture on a 1792 letter between Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Pinckney, the U.S. minister to England, and a misstatement by Mint Director James Ross Snowden in his 1860 numismatic work.

In the June 14, 1792 letter quoted by Stewart (pp. 31 – 33), Jefferson relates:

*... Mr. Short was therefore authorized to engage Drost [sic] to come over, to erect the proper machinery and instruct persons to go on with the coinage; and as he supposed this would require but about a year, we agreed to give him a thousand Louis a year, and his expenses; the agreement was made, two coining mills, or screws, were ordered by [from] him, but in the end he declined coming...*

Following the quotation of this letter, Stewart (pg. 33) offered the speculation:

*It is probable that the two coining mills ordered by Drost [sic] are those which Voigt mentioned in his now missing account book as having arrived from Europe September 21, 1792.*

Stewart's reference to Voigt's account book is based upon Snowden, who is the only author to directly quote this now missing record. In his 1860 work, “*The Mint Manual of Coins of All Nations*”, Snowden quoted this account book, which covered the period from July 19 through December of 1792. On page 99, Snowden states:

*The coining presses (three in number), which they were obliged to import from abroad, arrived at the Mint on Friday, the twenty-first of September; and under the date of the twenty-fifth of September, the same book from which we have before quoted states that “Flute [actually Flude] began after breakfast trimming the heavy press.”*



Snowden's statement appears quite definitive, but careful readers will have already noticed a glaring discrepancy between his account and the Jefferson letter – the number of presses. The Jefferson letter states that **two** were ordered, whereas Snowden says **three!**

Snowden could have made a mistake in transcribing Voigt's account book writing "three" instead of "two". However, throughout the chapter Snowden made several other citations of Voigt's account book and he always placed the citation in quotes. Yet the part of this passage concerning the source and number of presses is not quoted. In fact, the wording "*and under the date of the twenty-fifth of September, the same book from which we have before quoted*" makes it clear that the first part of the passage concerning the source and number of the presses **is not a quote!**

Thus Voigt's account book said nothing about the source or number of the presses, but rather only contained the brief note on the date of their arrival and the assembling of the heavy press. Snowden almost certainly injected the number to agree with the Elias Boudinot's 1795 report on the Mint that states there were three presses. As to the source, Snowden was likely repeating an old tale about the presses being imported or perhaps confusing the screw presses with the fact that the later steam press design did come from abroad.

Taxay continued the myth, picking up Stewart's speculation and unfortunately repeating it as though it was historical fact. Equally unfortunate is that Taxay, being aware of the discrepancy between Snowden's account and the Jefferson letter, further muddied the waters by adding a press from Eckfeldt to account for the third press mentioned in Snowden. On page 73 of "*The U.S. Mint and Coinage*", Taxay states:

*The Mint began with only one very small screw press which had been built by Adam Eckfeldt. Two larger presses were sent from abroad by Droz, and arrived on Friday, September 21.*

Taxay's account appears to solve the discrepancy in a very neat and tidy manner, but it too falls apart under careful examination. In fact, the very records that started the whole Droz myth also effectively destroy it!

As previously noted, there is the clear inconsistency in the number of presses in Snowden's account with the Jefferson letter of July 14, 1792. But, more important is the second half of Snowden's statement (this being directly from Voigt's account book since it is in quotation marks) that has a press being assembled (trimmed) on Sept. 25, 1792. This date becomes critical when compared to another historical record concerning Droz: a letter from William Short, our minister in France, to Thomas Jefferson dated Oct. 14, 1792. In this letter Short relates that Droz has decided not to take the position as Mint Director and then continues with a passage concerning the coining presses ordered from Droz (see Taxay, pp. 55 – 56):



*Hitherto when I have pushed him [Droz], which was very often, to lose no time in executing the machines which were to be made here, he always answered that he had several articles to complete first... It would be unsafe however I fear to count on him.*

Now, if Droz still hasn't supplied the presses according to this Oct. 14, 1792 letter, how can the Mint be assembling it nearly a month earlier on Sept 25th per Snowden's relating of Voigt's account book?

One could make the case that the press being assembled on that date is Taxay's supposed Eckfeldt press, but that doesn't fit either. First, Taxay says Eckfeldt supplied a "very small" press, and Voigt clearly states they are "trimming the heavy press". Furthermore, there are no records of Eckfeldt supplying a press or even working for the Mint in 1792 other than doing some minor blacksmith work in December of that year.

Casting even further doubt on the "Droz presses", Boudinot's 1795 report clearly states that a press to strike medals and dollars is on order with a local manufacturer and will be "finished in three months". The Droz theory would thus have us believe that we imported two presses at great expense, neither of which was capable of striking our largest coin, the Dollar, and the Mint would have to order one from a domestic manufacturer! This alone makes the story simply unbelievable.

To this we can add the fact that the historical records of the National Archives, including the Mint records and those of the State Department, contain no record whatsoever documenting the purchase or the arrival of screw presses from Droz or any other foreign source.

The end result is that when one considers all of the pertinent records, it becomes abundantly clear that not only did Droz decide not to take the position as Mint Director, he also did not supply presses.

So where did the presses come from? Past researchers have generally overlooked the most obvious source of all: John Harper. Not only had Harper, an accomplished blacksmith and saw manufacturer, been involved in the New Jersey copper coinage, but the Mint had also used his Philadelphia factory as a temporary site in 1791. Further sealing Harper as the source of the presses is the fact that the Mint records show that the Mint paid Harper \$217.85 for "presses" and other sundry items on August 29, 1792. [See also Stewart, pg. 170. Stewart reproduced many of the early entries from the Mint's account books on pp. 169 – 188.]

A third press may have been supplied by Alexander Hamilton, as Voigt's second account book shows that on April 8, 1793, Philip Leshar was paid 70 cents for "hauling a press and frame from Mr. Hamilton's".

The presses being of domestic origin explains both the often poor strike on the earliest coinage and the need to order a heavier press capable of striking dollars. In fact, the Mint records show that all of the original presses were replaced in 1794 and 1795 by five larger and more powerful ones.

### The Design and Operation of the Screw Presses

Since there are no drawings or detailed descriptions in the mint records, the exact design of these presses is somewhat enigmatic. Most numismatic texts use the rather crude and out-of-scale drawing from Samuel Thompson's 1783 "An Essay on Coining" or copies (sometimes slightly redrawn) of the late 17th century screw press shown in Diderot's "encyclopedia".

A more accurate view can be constructed from an illustration of London's Tower Mint circa 1811 from Rudlof Ackermann's, *"Microcosm of London"*. As this illustration shows, screw presses of this era were rather stout and compact devices of about waist height. The illustration is also particularly interesting as it shows the presses being operated by alternately pushing and pulling on wooden poles or heavy leather thongs attached to the ends of the swing arm.



Exactly who made the feed-fingers for the Mint's presses and their design remains somewhat of a mystery. Most authors credit Eckfeldt with their development, but there are no records to support this claim. There are, however, records that show one possible design and another that hints at who developed them for the Mint.

Engineering drawings of a press made for the Paris mint in Cooper's *"Art and Craft of Coimaking"* show a mechanism for the feed-fingers, which were driven by a rod running in an eccentric groove immediately above the screw.

*Coining by Screw Press from Ackermann's  
"Microcosm of London"*

The likely source for the Mint's feed fingers was John Harper. In 1795 Harper demonstrated his "improved press" in an abortive attempt to obtain a contract for copper cents. In a letter to the Speaker of the House dated Feb. 8, 1796, supporting a move to reimburse Harper for expenses incurred in demonstrating his press, then Congressman Elias Boudinot noted that Harper had developed an improvement that the Mint had adopted. While the letter does not specifically mention feed fingers, this was the only piece of press technology the Mint was lacking and it seems just a bit too coincidental that the Mint "developed" this capability immediately after Harper's demonstration.



A fairly clear view of the operation of the presses can be developed by combining the foregoing with B.C. Wailes's 1829 eyewitness account of striking coins at the U.S. Mint:

*This [the press] is a very powerful, ingenious, simple (tho very perfect) piece of machinery. It consists (like the cutting machine) of a very powerful upright screw, to the top of which is affixed a heavy & strong lever worked with apparent ease by one man at each end, & by which the screw is made to make about one fourth of a revolution & returning instantly to its former position. At the lower end of the screw is affixed the die which gives the impression on the upper side, & immediately under it is the die containing the impression for the reverse of the coin, around which a pair of nippers (which give the milling or impression on the edges), & by which placing as a rivet in the manner of shears admits the introduction of the coin before and its ejection after it receives the impression. Near the lower end of the Screw stands a tube sufficiently large to admit a considerable number of coins, one on top of the other, which may be termed the hopper, at the bottom of which is an apparatus sufficiently large to admit the passage of the coin, one at a time. The lower end in the file or hopper is struck out with great accuracy by a thin piece of iron made to strike edgewise at each movement of the lever and is conveyed by a channel formed for the purpose & is conveyed directly under the dye. The screw is brought down & the nippers close with a force that makes the impression. The lever is instantly brought back, the nippers open, the stamped coin struck out of its place & conveyed to a box by a spout (or conductor) as the Screw rises, and another unstamped coin takes its place, & the Screw comes down again.*

While Wailes does not mention the denomination being struck, it must have been either silver or gold as he mentions edge milling (a gold denomination is the most likely as this is mentioned later in his account). Most interestingly, Wailes notes that a "hopper" or "feed tube" was in use. The edge devices, of course, were not formed by the feed-fingers (nippers) as Wailes records but rather pre-applied by the rimming machine in the case of half dollars or imparted by the collar for smaller silver and gold.

Additional details concerning the operation of the presses are found in the Mint record of "*Orders and Directions for the conducting the Mint of the United States*" (aka, the "Mint Rules") written in 1795 by then Mint Director Elias Boudinot. One of the directions stated that the screw presses were to be locked up when not in use:



*The Pressman who shall have the Keys of the Presses, shall never leave them without locking them with the Chains, so as to prevent the Levers from being moved, and when the Business of the Day is finished, shall immediately deliver the Keys to the Chief Coiner, or other Supervisor of the Department as may be indicated. If any Pressman shall neglect this Order, he shall be immediately discharged and forfeit all his Wages then due.*

While it is possible that the daily shutdown and lock-up of the presses included removing the dies from the press, a more likely scenario is that a mis-struck coin, blank planchet, or even a piece of leather was placed in the coining chamber to protect the dies, the press closed, and then locked. With the press secured in such a manner it would have been literally impossible to get out.

The rules also show that there were at least three persons supervising the striking of coins: the Chief Coiner and two men directly assigned to him: the Assistant Coiner and a Mint Foreman. The intent of this is very clear; the pressmen were not to be left unsupervised.

Other Mint records provide a very clear view of the denominations struck on the various presses and how many presses were in operation at one time. While it is true that a larger coin requires more striking force and too large a press would break a small die, the presses were “adjustable” to some extent.

The force applied by a screw press, and thus the size of the coins it could strike, is dependent on a number of factors including the size of the screw and frame, the length of the swing-arm and the weights on the ends of the swing arm. The swing-arm weights could be changed to adjust the striking force, allowing different size coins (within reason) to be struck on a single press. The Mint’s account books do show the purchase of weights for the screw presses.

Other Mint documents definitely show that certain denominations were occasionally struck on at least two different presses. In the 1804 report, Mint Director Elias Boudinot clearly indicated that cents had been struck on multiple presses:

*The increased price of Copper in Europe and the quantity on hand have been thought sufficient reasons to confine the Coinage of Cents to one press...*

And in a Nov. 8 1836 letter to Treasury Secretary Levi Woodbury, Mint Director Patterson stated:

*Heretofore we have used two screw presses for coining half dollars, one of them only occasionally. The smaller of these presses required three men to work it, the larger four.*

Based on the Mint records, the likely allocation of the presses is then:

1. Dollars, medals, hubbing, and occasionally half dollars or eagles.
2. Eagles and half dollars.
3. Cents and half cents.
4. Quarter dollars, half eagles, half cents and occasionally cents.
5. Half dimes, dimes, and quarter eagles.

The labor records, coining account books, and statements by the Mint Directors in various reports all provide significant evidence regarding the number of presses in operation at any given time. These records show that while there were probably two coining presses in 1793, the Mint had only enough laborers to operate one at a time. For 1794 through 1800, the records indicate that the Mint could operate two presses at a time. In the early 1800s the Mint hired additional manpower and could operate two or three presses at a time, depending upon whether the large four-person press for dollars and half dollars was in use. In late 1827 the Mint again hired more labor and was then able to operate three to four presses at a time, again depending upon whether the large four-person press for dollars and half dollars was in use.

The documented use of multiple presses for the cents and half dollars does create one small conundrum for collectors interested in emission sequences: the concurrent use of more than one press for the same denomination results in “co-emission” of varieties. Thus, a definitive overall emission sequence outside of simple “die-chain” sequences is not possible.

This “multiple press use” is likely also true for other denominations as well. Even though the product was money, the Mint was, in essence, a factory. Thus, the Mint struck whatever coins were in demand. If there was a sudden demand for dimes or quarters and none for cents, the Mint would not simply have let the “cent press operators” stand idle. Rather, they would have shifted them to striking the dimes or quarters on another press. And, the Mint’s coining account books do show these shifts of labor from one denomination to another.

### Coining By Steam Press

In the mid-1820s, increasing economic expansion and political stability in Latin America led to a massive influx of silver bullion (and some gold) into the United States. This sudden influx began to place a serious strain on the Mint’s capacity. This situation was further compounded by increasing production of gold in the southern states.

Mint Director Samuel Moore was quick to recognize the growing need for additional capacity. In 1827 he began preparing cost estimates for constructing and equipping a new Mint. Not surprisingly, one of Moore’s foremost concerns was the Mint’s antiquated screw presses and he wasted little time contacting Boulton, Watt & Co. that summer to inquire about their supplying steam-powered coining presses for a new mint.

With cost estimates in hand, on December 10, 1828, Moore wrote a letter to the chairman of the House committee on the Mint urging him to place a bill before Congress to fund construction of a new Mint equipped with new steam-powered coining machinery. Fortunately, by this time the majority of the Congress were well aware of the growing needs, and with the backing of increasingly powerful private commercial and financial interests the measure was quickly passed on March 2, 1829.

In the mean time, the negotiations with Boulton & Co. were not proceeding well. Moore demanded (quite understandably), that detailed drawings of the equipment be provided as part of the contract; a provision to which Boulton would not agree. Another problem was the company's insistence that the Mint pay for the equipment in advance rather than on delivery and proof of operation. This was the final blow. Although he had the backing of Congress along with political and commercial allies, the Congress would not tolerate a "failed experiment." From Moore's perspective the payment terms were unacceptable and the negotiations were dropped.

The tone of the negotiations shows that Boulton & Co. had seriously miscalculated. They apparently thought the Mint's need more urgent than it was. In fact, Moore was well aware that it would take several years to build and equip the new Mint. Furthermore, Moore had "bought some time" in meeting the growing coinage demands by purchasing another screw coining press in December of 1827 and hiring additional labor. With the completion of the new buildings in January of 1833, the Mint merely continued using the existing screw presses until an answer to the equipment problem could be found.

That solution came about in May of 1833 when Moore decided to send Franklin Peale on a tour of the mints in England, Germany and France to review their equipment and overall operation. Contrary to popular myth, this trip was not an "industrial spy mission." Moore had written to the U.S. ministers in the respective nations seeking permission to visit. These nations were more than happy to cooperate; not only was the U.S. a growing commercial market, but it was also becoming an important political and military force as well. Friendly relations were a good idea!

Peale reported back to Director Moore During his travels and as a result of these reports it became increasingly clear that Moore's decision not to be pushed into a hasty purchase of Boulton coining press was indeed correct. While Boulton's development of a steam-powered press was certainly important, his press was not exactly the ground-breaking leap in technology most think it was.

All Boulton had really done was apply the power of a steam engine to a standard screw press through a rather convoluted series of levers and cams. In fact, after seeing his presses and power system in the London mint, Peale noted that Boulton's equipment was very large, rather slow, and due to the complex mechanisms, inefficient in its use of power.

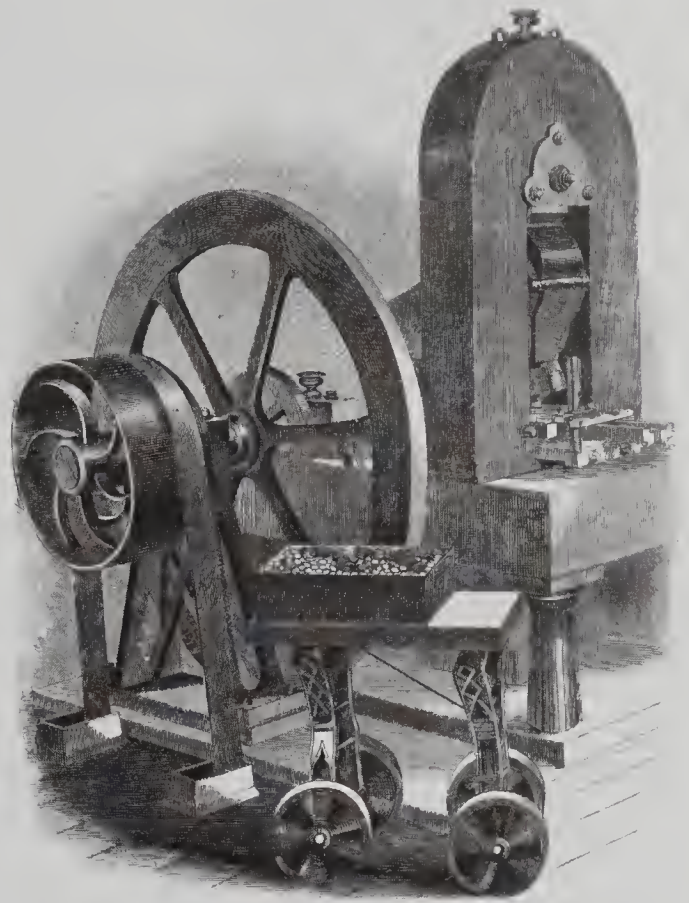


In fact, the “Uhlhorn” presses Peale saw in Germany and France were far superior to the Boulton presses. Named after their inventor, Diederich Uhlhorn, these presses were a fundamental improvement in minting technology.

The Uhlhorn presses were so technologically superior that within a decade they came into wide use throughout Europe. And, in the Paris mint that Peale saw the Thonnelier press, which was yet a further refinement of the Uhlhorn design.

Rather than using the impact from a descending screw to accomplish the strike, the Uhlhorn and Thonnelier presses used the squeeze applied by a “knuckle joint”. And, the mechanism was as simple as it was elegant. Unlike Boulton’s complex arrangement of levers and cams, these presses were driven by simple belts and pulleys attached directly to the steam engine’s main fly-wheel. The design was so mechanically efficient that the entire press had about the same number of levers and cams as just the feeding mechanism of the Boulton presses!

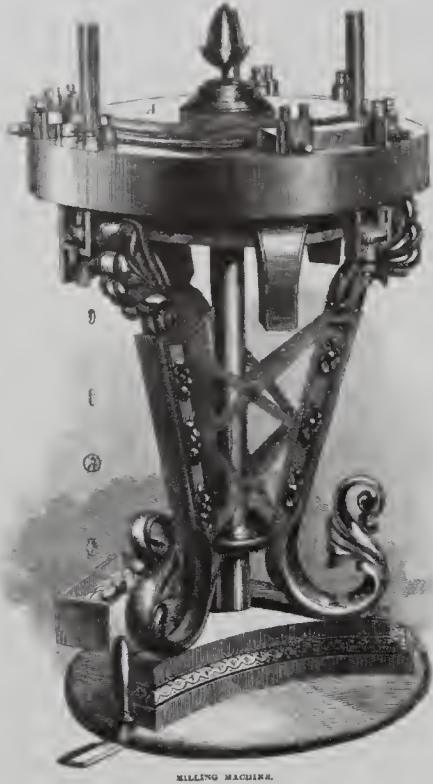
Legend has it that Peale stole the design from the Paris mint by making detailed drawings of the press. However, another letter from Peale to Moore tells quite a different story. The French let Peale copy the design and even provided mint workers to help him in producing the drawings and explaining mechanical details. All that was asked is that Peale pay for their time, which, of course, he happily did.



COINING PRESS.  
*The Steam Press*

After Peale’s return, Moore sought bids for construction of three Thonnelier presses and subsequently placed a contract with the firm of Merrick, Agnew and Tyler. Rufus Tyler (who would later become the Chief Coiner of the New Orleans Mint) was the mechanic in charge of their construction.

The first press, used for cents and quarters, was installed on March 23rd, 1836. Following some initial tests and subsequent modifications, in early April cents were the first coins struck on the new press with quarters apparently following later that month or the next. Both cents and quarters were struck at the rate of 80 per minute, which was over twice the rate of a screw press and half again the rate of Boulton’s presses.



Milling Machine

Peale also brought back a design for a steam-powered milling (edge rimming) machine. Depending upon the denomination, the new milling machine with its rotary dies could rim planchets at about 5 to 20 times the rate of the old manually-powered rimming machine. With the new high-speed coining presses, this machine was a crucial part of the coining operations.

The improvements that Peale brought back literally transformed the Mint from a small, antiquated artisan's shop into the most advanced mint in the world with capabilities exceeding that of either Britain or France. In fact, upon visiting the U.S. Mint some years later, an attaché of the Royal Mint in London remarked to the Chief Coiner, "When you come to London, I beg you not to visit our Mint. You are a hundred years in advance of us."

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# **A Hoard of 1800 Bust Dollars**

**By James Matthews**

On August 8, 2000 I had the pleasure to examine a hoard of 63 Bust Dollars, all dated 1800. These were purchased by a dealer over a relatively brief time from 1998 to 1999 and were to be sold as a small promotion for the 200th anniversary of their striking. The failed promotion was purchased by Jonathan Kern, and he allowed me to go through and attribute each one of the dollars.

If noted, some are early die state (no notation), or later die state ("a" or "b") per the Bolender reference.

Here's what I found by Bolender and Bowers and Borckardt number: the following are all for the date 1800. As most of the coins were raw I graded them conservatively:

B-1, BB-181, ANACS VF-20

B-2, BB-182 none

B-3, BB-183 none

B-4, BB-186 none

B-5, BB-189 VF-25, VF-30

B-8, BB-188 VF-25, ANACS VF-20, PCGS F-12

B-10, BB-190 "b" VF-20, VF-25, "a" VF-35, "a" ANACS VF-30, "a" ANACS-F-15

B-11, BB-191 VF-25, VF-30

B-12, BB-184 VF-25, VF-25, VF-35, VF-30, VF-30, NGC VF-20

B-13/18, BB-193 ("a" is clashed on reverse, no letter is early die state) "a" VF-20, "a" VF-25, "a" VF-20, "a" VF-20, "a" VF-25, "a" EF-40, "a" VF-35, "a" ANACS VF-20 and PCGS VF-20 (early die state before clashing)

B-14, BB-194 "a" VF-30, "a" VF-30, VF-20, "a" VF-30, VF-25, VF-20

B-15, BB-195 VF-25



B-16, BB-187 VF-20, VF-25, VF-20, VF-20, "a" VF-30, ANACS VF-20, ANACS VF-30, NGC VF-20, PCGS F-15, PCGS F-15

B-17, BB-196 VF-25, VF-20, VF-20, VF-25, PCGS VF-25, NGC VF-30, ANACS VF-30, ANACS VF-25, ANACS F-15

B-19, BB-192 VF-25 holed and plugged, VF-20 repaired, F-15 repaired, VF-20, NGC VF-30, PCI VF-20, NGC VF-35

B-20, BB-185 none

What can we learn from this hoard? Obviously, the known rarities were represented by 1 or no coins in the hoard. While this is not a statistical study, I assumed the hoard was assembled only by date, with no preference for varieties. One rarely has a chance to examine this number of bust dollars, and the breakdown by variety confirms the rarity of the B-1 BB-181, B-2 BB-182, B-3 BB-183, B-4 BB-186 and B-20 BB-185 varieties. Curiously the B-15 BB-195 was represented by a single coin, and the scarcity of the B-11 BB-191 variety (2 examples in this hoard) was confirmed as compared to the other AMERICA! variety the B-19 BB-192 that was represented by 7 examples. These would each rate as low Rarity-7 to Rarity-5 on the Sheldon scale.

Scarce to rare varieties would include B-5, BB-189 with 2 seen in the hoard, B-8 BB-188 with 3 seen in this hoard, B-11 BB-191 with 2 seen in this hoard, and we should include B-15 BB-195 with a single example found in this hoard. These varieties would likely rate as Rarity-4 on the Sheldon scale (76 to 200 known) and possibly Rarity-5 (31 to 75 known).

Of the 1800 (dated) varieties, the following may be considered more plentiful: B-10 BB-190 with 6 in this hoard, B-12 BB-184 with 7 in this hoard, B-13/18 BB-193 with 9 in this hoard, B-14 BB-194 with 6 in this hoard. The most common variety was B-16 BB-187 with 10 examples, B-17 BB-196 with 7 examples and also the B-19 BB-192 with 7 examples. Any of these varieties can be found with little searching.

This little hoard sheds a bit of light on this date and the comparative rarities of the 16 known varieties.

Comments or questions can be directed to Jim Matthews at [bustdollar@direcway.com](mailto:bustdollar@direcway.com) or by writing to P. O. Box 1118, Mt. Jackson, VA 22842.



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## **Discovery of a New Remarriage of an 1833 Bust Quarter**

**Dr. Glenn Peterson**

Bust quarters have been the subject of increased scrutiny recently and in a collaborative effort, a double remarriage has been discovered of the 1833 B1 quarter. By a double remarriage, I mean that both obverse and reverse dies were matched with new mates before the original die pair 1833 B1 was resumed. As such, a double remarriage is unique (so far) for bust quarters and is an anomaly that is only known in one other series of bust coinage - half dimes. Most remarriages are simple. One die pair is used to strike a coin then one of the other is mated with another to produce coins. The dies become more worn. Cracks may occur, dies may clash and metal may break out of the dies where the dies were not properly tempered, leaving indentations in the dies. Then the original pair is reunited to produce coins. The advanced die state of one side of the coin produced proves that this is a remarriage. The other side of the coin has a die state not much different from that seen in the original marriage of the coin. On double remarriages both obverse and reverse dies are re-mated, coins are struck as the die ages. The original pair is subsequently re-mated to produce coins. On bust silver coinage, this only occurs on a number of 1832 and 1833 bust half dimes and this 1833 quarter remarriage. This may relate to disruption of usual processes at the Mint as the presses and coining equipment were transferred from the First to the Second Mint in January 1833.

Before we go on with the story, I would like to introduce a term described at the presentation by Craig Sholley at the JRCS meeting at the ANA in Baltimore July 30, 2003. Craig discussed the process of preparing dies that required hardening and tempering of the dies. Hardening was accomplished by heating the die to a red hot level then rapidly cooling the die with water. If dies were used in this hardened state they would be too brittle. The die would then be reheated at a lower level to make them more pliable without losing all their hardness. If the tempering was not done properly the surface of the die might shatter off in a process he described as "spawling". This spawling produces indentations into the die. In previous numismatic literature this might have been described as "rust pits" in the die but it is now thought that it was not rusting that produced these marks but spawling employing this explanation, let us now proceed with the story of this die remarriage.

Discovery of this remarriage is an interesting story. In March 2001, Brad Karoleff, John Kovach and I traveled to Wilmington, Delaware to visit Jules Reiver and study his bust quarters as part of our research for a bust quarter text. Jules' hospitality was very much appreciated especially because he has collected multiple die states of each of the bust quarters. In many cases he would have 4 or 5 distinct die states in a given marriage. While we were studying the 1833, Brad commented that there were multiple die states of the 1833 B1 quarter and there might be a remarriage involving the reverse. To keep the project moving along we



## DISCOVERY OF A NEW REMARRIAGE OF AN 1833 BUST QUARTER

divided our duties and Brad researched the remarriage while John and I proceeded with die state identification. Brad discovered that the 1833 B1 first marriage only had one spawling pit between the last "A" of America and the arrowhead. When the same reverse was mated with an 1832 obverse to produce 1832 B1, another spawling pit formed between the lowest two arrowheads. After the reverse was remated with the 1833 obverse, many other spawling pits developed.

I met with Steve Tompkins at the FUN show January 2002 and was discussing this new remarriage of the 1833 B1 and Steve said, "how about the obverse remarriage haven't you seen that?" Sure enough, we put a fairly large grouping of 1833 coins on the table and the spawling pits on the obverse progress from 1833 B1 (first marriage no marks) to 1833 B2 (moderate number of spawling pits) to 1833 B1 (second marriage with extreme number of spawling pits). Further research shows that the obverse re-mating and reverse re-mating occurred at the same time.



*Photo 1: 1833 1st marriage  
Showing reverse of the 1833 B1 with a single spawling pit  
between A3 and arrowhead*



*Photo 2: 1832 B1  
Showing reverse of 1832 B1 with a spawling pit between A3  
and arrowhead and a similar pit between the lower two  
arrowheads.*



*Photo 3: 1833 2nd marriage  
Showing reverse of 1833 B1 second marriage with these pits  
plus multiple spawling pits around 25C.*



*Photo 4: 1833 1st marriage  
Showing no marks around stars 5 and 6 on the 1833 B1  
first marriage.*



## DISCOVERY OF A NEW REMARRIAGE OF AN 1833 BUST QUARTER



*Photo 5: 1833 B2  
Showing several spawling pits on the 1833 B2.*



*Photo 6: 1833 B2  
Showing no clashmark in field behind the cap.*



*Photo 8: 1833 B1 2nd marriage  
Showing a clashmark behind the cap on the 1833 B1  
second marriage.*



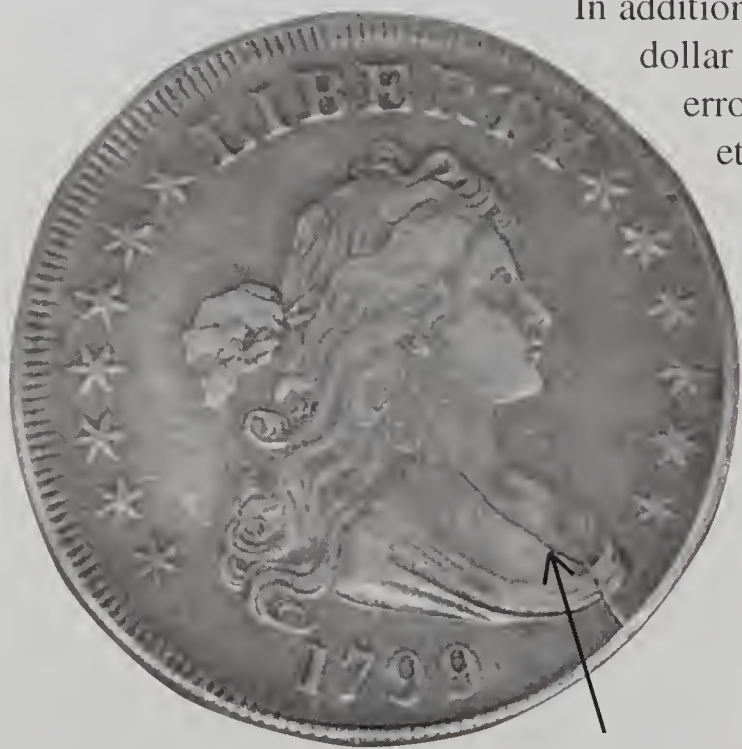
*Photo 7: 1833 B1 2nd marriage  
Showing multiple spawling pits in the area around stars  
five and six.*

There are surely more discoveries to be found in the study of Bust Quarters for the avid collector and researcher. I invite you to join the Bust Quarter Collector Society, a sub-specialty club under the auspices of JRCS. Inquiries into joining the club should be directed to Glenn Peterson, MD 9301 Park West Boulevard, Knoxville TN 37923.



# 1799 Dollar With Cracked Planchet

By Tim Toy



*Obverse of 1799 B-17, BB-164 Dollar with Cracked Planchet*

In addition to the many die varieties that can keep an early dollar collector busy (and broke) for a lifetime, mint errors such as double-struck coins, off-center coins, etcetera only add to the exciting challenge.

Recently, I was fortunate enough to find a 1799 Bust Dollar in VF35 condition that was certified by PCGS as a mint error with a 1/2-inch crack in the planchet. The variety of the dollar is a B-17, BB-164, in the scarce Bowers Die State IV. The coin looks to be graded correctly with an original medium-gray color. The crack, on the obverse, starts at 4:30 and works its way towards the center of the coin. For the first 1/4-inch of the crack (starting at the rim), the split is wide enough that you can actually look into the crevice but not thru to the other side. On the reverse, the crack is only 1/2-inch long.

Cracked planchets seem to be much rarer in large denominations compared to their smaller counterparts. The smaller denomination planchets are thinner and therefore more susceptible to cracking and their size makes screening any errors much more difficult. Very little has been written about this planchet defect other than the possible causes being foreign metal or gas pockets trapped in the rolled metal strip. When stamping out the blanks, the pressure could have caused the weakened planchet to crack.

Whatever the causes might have been, this is the one that got away from the mint's quality control, such as it was in 1799, and has made its way to one grateful collector. Any information on other early dollars with similar planchet defects would be greatly appreciated.



*Planchet Crack at 2:00 on Reverse of 1799 B-17, BB-164 Dollar.*





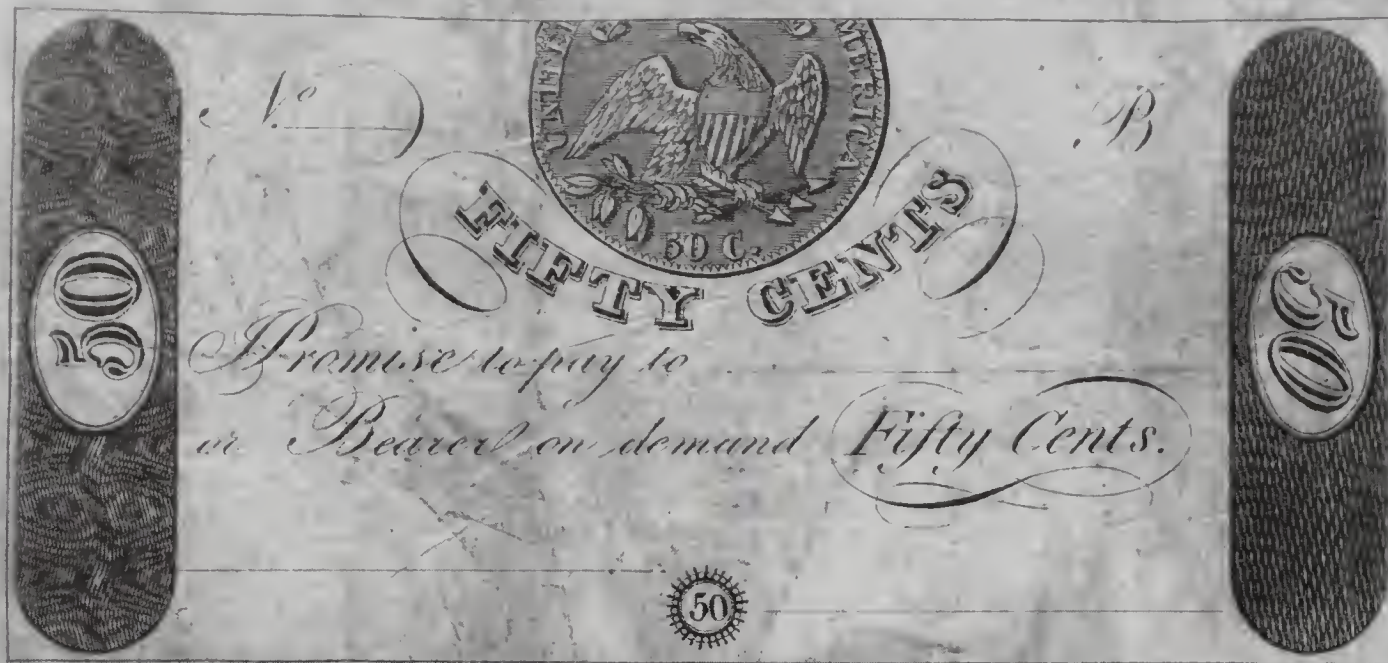
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# JRCS FUN QUIZ

By Bradley S. Karoleff

1. What year was JRCS formed?
2. In 1883 both an "unc" 1802 half dime and the "finest known" 1794 dollar sold - one for \$400 the other for \$285. Which coin sold for more?
3. In what year did the ANS publish Valentine's monograph on the half-dimes?
4. How many die marriages are known for the famous 1792 half dime?
5. What year of half-dime shows the most different obverse star counts?
6. Which type of 1829 half-dime was minted first, the two or three gule reverse?
7. In what year did the Mint first use steam presses to strike Capped Bust half-dimes?
8. Which year of Capped Bust half-dime is represented by the most number of Redbook varieties?
9. Who, in 1964, published a listing of bust dime die marriages?
10. Who, in 1973, discovered the 1829 curl base 2 dime?
11. In what year did the Mint begin striking dimes with a closed (close) collar?
12. In what year did the Congress adopt the dollar and it's decimal units as our monetary unit?
13. What two denominations of US coins shared the SAME reverse dies?
14. In what year did the first overdate dime appear?
15. Between 1796 and 1807, what two dates are missing from the dime series?
16. What two years of the Capped Bust dimes have the STATESOFAMERICA reverses?
17. Three years of Capped Bust dimes are known only as overdates. Name them.
18. Who amassed a hoard of approximately 200 1796 bust quarters?
19. What two dates of bust quarters are known with the famous E or L counterstamps?
20. What two dates of bust quarters exhibit the 25/50 C. error reverses?
21. In what year did the Mint drop the motto "E PLURIBUS UNUM" from the bust quarters?
22. 1793 was the first year of official coinage at the US Mint. Only copper was issued in that year. Why did silver have to wait until 1794?
23. Until issuance of the Overton tome, what was the most used die identification manual for the collector of half dollars?
24. In what year did the denomination first appear on the US half dollars?
25. In what year did the Heraldic Eagle reverse first appear on a US coin? Bonus - which coin?
26. Which two years of half dollars are represented by only one die marriage?
27. What date appeared on the dime in the King of Siam Proof Set? Bonus - which die marriage?
28. What is the first overdate in the half dollar series?
29. What year of Capped Bust half dollar exhibits the error reverse 50/20 C.?
30. What year saw the first overdate in the Capped Bust half dollars?
31. The only small 8 Capped Bust half dollar variety in 1812 is also known for what other distinction?
32. What three years of Capped Bust half dollars are known with the famous "single leaf" reverses?
33. The only Capped Bust half dollar known with half of the edge lettering upside down was minted in 1818. What other distinguishing characteristic does this die marriage exhibit?
34. What is the only year in the Capped Bust half dollar series to exhibit a "button" in the front of the cap?
35. What year in the Capped Bust half dollar series hosts the only die showing multiple overdates?
36. Which year of the Capped Bust half dollars has the most die marriages?
37. Which year of Capped Bust half dollar has the error reverse 50/00 C.?
38. One merchant had a penchant for counterstamping Capped Bust halves with advertising. What was the counterstamp?
39. In what year did the Mint move their coining machinery to the new building?
40. In what year can you find a "silver plug" in a bust dollar?
41. What is the first year the Mint struck Capped Bust quarter eagles?
42. What is the first overdate in the half eagle series?
43. How can you easily tell the difference between a circulation strike 1804 eagle and one made for the presentation sets in 1834?
44. In what year was the Capped Bust design last used for US coins?
45. In what year did Congress repeal the legal tender status of the Spanish colonial silver coinages that circulated side-by-side with our bust coinages?





*Fifty Cent Note*

## ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ

Bibliography of works used for the quiz. Answers are coordinated by number assigned to the work used followed by the page number(s) where you can find the information.

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7. Yeoman, R.S., edited by Bressett, Ken, **A Guide Book of United States Coins**, 57th edition, 2004

Q#	ANSWER	WORK	PG #	Q#	ANSWER	WORK	PG #
1.	1984	4	6	23.	Beistle	5	12
2.	half dime \$400 dollar \$285	4	9	24.	1794- On the Edge!	5	1
3.	1931	4	55	25.	1797 Eagle	1	545-6
4.	one	4	81	26.	1802 & 1815	5	57, 217-19
5.	1797	4	108-114	27.	1834 JR1	3	212
6.	3 gule	4	62 & 137	28.	1805/4	5	62-6
7.	none	4	137	29.	1807	5	122-6
8.	1835	7	117	30.	1808/7	5	129-30
9.	Abe Kosoff	3	X	31.	Overdate 1812/1	5	183-193
10.	John McCloskey	3	X	32.	1812	5	182
11.	1828	3	74, 149-150		1814	5	206
12.	1785	3,7	4,8		1817	5	220
13.	dimes & \$2.50	3	39	33.	Pincer top 8's	5	246
14.	1798/7	7	121	34.	1822	5	288
15.	1799,1806	7	121-122	35.	1824	5	322
16.	1814 & 1820	3	79	36.	1827	5	378-427
17.	1811/10	3	78	37.	1836	5	606
	1823/2	3	118	38.	Houcks Panacea	5	630
	1824/2	3	122	39.	1833	6	146
18.	Col. EHR Green	2	17	40.	1795	7	177
19.	1815 & 1825	2	102	41.	1808	7	199
20.	1822 & 1828	2	91,112	42.	1796/5	7	207
21.	1831	2	116	43.	Circulation strikes have crosslet 4. Presentation strikes have a plain 4.	7	218
22.	Voigt and Cox could not afford the security bonds required by Congress	6	120-1	44.	1839 Reeded edge halves	7	163
				45.	1857	7	12

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JRCS# \_\_\_\_\_

Type or Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month Date Year)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

*The purpose of The John Reich Collectors Society ("JRCS") is to encourage the study of numismatics, particularly United States silver and gold coins minted before the introduction of the Seated Liberty design, and to provide technical and educational information concerning such coins. A member's name and address will not be included in any membership directory issued by JRCS or be disclosed to others without prior consent of such member.*

Check the appropriate space below:

\_\_\_\_ Collector \_\_\_\_ Collector-Dealer \_\_\_\_ Dealer (Firm Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your area(s) of interest in Early United States Coins:

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| a ____ Flowing Hair Bust Half Dimes     | h ____ Capped Bust Quarter Dollars    |
| b ____ Draped Bust Half Dimes           | i ____ Flowing Hair Bust Half Dollars |
| c ____ Capped Bust Half Dimes           | j ____ Draped Bust Half Dollars       |
| d ____ Draped Bust Small Eagle Dimes    | k ____ Capped Bust Half Dollars       |
| e ____ Draped Bust Heraldic Eagle Dimes | l ____ Flowing Hair Bust Dollars      |
| f ____ Capped Bust Dimes                | m ____ Draped Bust Dollars            |
| g ____ Draped Bust Quarter Dollars      | n ____ Gold Issues                    |

*I hereby apply for membership in JRCS. As required by the By-Laws of JRCS I agree to pay promptly all my debts or other obligations to JRCS or any of its members. I enclose a check or money order for \$20.00 payable to "John Reich Collectors Society" for my annual membership contribution, or \$500.00 for a life membership in the Society.*

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of applicant)

If applying for reinstatement, please give your former JRCS member # \_\_\_\_\_

### Guarantee (if Applicant is under 21 years):

I guarantee payment by the Applicant of his/her debts or other obligations to JRCS or any of its members. I am 21 years or older.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Guarantor)

Relation to Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

### Sponsor's Statement:

I sponsor the above Applicant for membership in JRCS.  
My JRCS member number is # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Sponsor Member)

*John Reich Collectors Society (Employer Identification No. 34-1427467) is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. As such, gifts and contributions made to John Reich Collectors Society may be deducted as provided in the Internal Revenue Code.*

Back issues of The John Reich Journal are still available to members for \$7.50 each postpaid.  
Visit the website for a complete listing of the issues in stock.



